

On June 28 I collected another set of four eggs of the Black Swift. This set was taken from the same nest as the former one, and presumably from the same pair of birds. Incubation had commenced, the embryos having just begun to form. The nest was composed of the same kind of materials as before, with the addition of a small piece of the tinfoil used to cover tobacco. The dimensions of the eggs are as follows: .96 X .67, .98 X .71, .99 X .69, 1.00 X .71 inch.

When this second set was taken the female had to be pushed off the nest in order that the eggs might be obtained.

In neither of these nests were the materials glued together with saliva, there being no trace of saliva about the nests. The nests were put together so loosely that they could not be preserved. Portions of the materials of which they were composed were, however, collected.

These birds are rather abundant here, and usually nest in the cornices of buildings near the water front, in the business part of the city. I have known of several nests which were built in galvanized iron cornices. It is, however, usually impossible to get at these places. I have tried for several years to obtain specimens of the eggs, but till now have found it impossible, although I have torn open three different cornices in hopes of getting them. — M. H. GORMLEY, *Seattle, Washington Territory.*

Xantus's Becard (*Platypsaris albiventris*) in the Huachuca Mountains, Southern Arizona.—On June 20, 1888, I secured an adult male, in breeding plumage, of this species in the pine forests of the Huachuca Mountains, at an elevation of about 7500 feet, and seven miles north of the Mexican boundary. (See Ridgway's 'Manual of North American Birds,' p. 325.) I am certain there were a pair of these birds, as I heard their very peculiar notes in different places at the same time, but the locality being so extremely rough and broken I only secured the one above recorded. Several times while collecting at high altitudes I have heard bird notes that I thought were these, but they were always on almost inaccessible mountain sides. Their note reminds one of the song of Stephens's Vireo (*Vireo huttoni stephensi*), but is not so long continued, and is harsher. From observing the actions of the bird I killed, I am sure its mate was in the vicinity, and probably nesting, although I have since carefully searched the place without success. This species will doubtless be found breeding in Arizona, as was *Trogon ambiguus*. — WILL. W. PRICE, *Riverside, Cal.*

Coccothraustes vespertina in Nebraska.—On March 12, 1886, a flock of eight Evening Grosbeaks appeared in this locality, and these are the only ones that have been observed by myself, or by anyone so far as I know.

I first observed them about 9 A. M. They were then feeding on the samaras of the box elders, and were very easy to approach. The flock consisted of seven females and but one male. I secured the male and one female. The contents of both their stomachs consisted entirely of box

elder seeds. Their habits of feeding were exactly as given by Mr. Keyes in the January 'Auk' (p. 114). The remaining flock of six females stayed for three weeks and then departed.—GEO. A. COLEMAN, *London, Nemaha Co., Nebraska.*

Tameness of the Pine Siskin.—On April 29, 1888, while walking near Oak Hill in Newton, Mass., I noticed two Pine Siskins (*Spinus pinus*), about a heap of hops by the roadside. One of them flew away at my approach, but the other remained there feeding, and, though perfectly able-bodied and in good condition, was remarkably tame. I stood watching him some time. After a while I reached out and stroked him, and finally succeeded in catching him in one hand. When I let him go, he flew off to some distance. Before I caught him, he went and perched in a bush near by and apparently went to sleep, putting his head over his left wing under the scapular feathers, so that it was completely hidden. When I approached too near, he would take his head out and look at me and then put it back again when I drew back. The ground about there was sprinkled with droppings, showing that the birds had probably been there for some time. Was this bird affected by the hops, or is there any other explanation of his curious conduct? The hops were to be used as dressing for a field of grass. — FRANCIS H. ALLEN, *West Roxbury, Mass.*

Further Notes on Seaside Sparrows.—A series of six specimens of Seaside Sparrows kindly loaned me for examination by Mr. G. S. Miller, Jr., of Peterboro, N. Y., includes four specimens from Sapelo Island, coast of Georgia, one from Cedar Keys, and one from Corpus Christi, Texas. The Corpus Christi specimen (male, May 26, 1886) is typically *Ammodramus maritimus sennetti*; the Cedar Keys example (female, Jan. 30, 1880) is typical *A. m. peninsulæ*, as is also one of the four specimens from Sapelo Island, the other three being *A. maritimus*. All of the Sapelo Island specimens were taken in December, examples of both forms being labelled Dec. 14, 1887. Mr. Miller kindly wrote me concerning the Sapelo specimens before sending them, as follows: "They all seem to be true *A. maritimus*, excepting one female taken Dec. 14, which is, so far as I can see, typical *peninsulæ*. It agrees in almost every particular with a specimen taken at Cedar Keys, Fla., which I should refer without hesitation to this form. Should the Sapelo Island specimen prove to be *peninsulæ*, it would extend the range of that form considerably."—J. A. ALLEN, *Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York City.*

A Second Instance of the Breeding of the White-throated Sparrow in Eastern Massachusetts.—On the 13th and 14th of June (1888) I found a White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) singing in Wakefield, Mass.; and on the 16th and 17th, in the same spot (a bushy roadside swamp), I saw a female of the same species. The male was in full plumage, and the identification was absolute in every case. I saw nothing more of either bird, as I left home on the 18th and did not return